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20 March 1970

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting of the National Disaster Support Task Group

1. The second meeting of the National Disaster Support Task Group was convened at 1330 hours on 9 March 1970 at the USGS - TK Facility, Reston, Virginia. The agenda of the meeting follows:

A. Discussion by each member of:

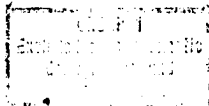
- (1) Pertinent available resources
- (2) Current emergency reporting procedures
- (3) Activation mechanisms
- (4) Command nets

B. National Disaster Support System - Preliminary Draft

C. Next meeting

2. The each member discussion was accomplished in a verbal 'round robin' fashion which revealed few noteworthy points. It would have been much more worth-while had this exercise been accomplished on paper so that someone could have interrelated the various agency inputs. Such things as the USDA telephone contacts with their field representatives throughout the U.S., their teletype link with most state capitols, ESSA's 33,000 civilian and military meteorological observers and their teletype communication to all weather stations were mentioned. Mr. R. Beck mentioned that it takes ESSA up to two hours following the occurrence of an earthquake to determine its magnitude and epicenter location. The same time frame applies to tsunamis.

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3. [ ] presented, for criticism, a flow chart of his idea for a disaster support system. He described his proposal but time limitations and the system complexity necessitated that comments be deferred until the next meeting. In conjunction, however, it was suggested that since different disasters require different action with different agencies involved, a matrix presenting Disaster Type vs. Action Required be drafted. A second matrix would display Disaster Type vs. Agency Involvement/Concern. The matrix idea appears to be the most sound approach yet presented. It is to be continued at the next meeting.

4. A good deal of rather warm discussion concerning the date of the next Task Group meeting arose. The meeting proposed for 17 March is to be concerned with how any disaster situations, due to spring flooding, can best be handled. Neither representative from the Office of the Corps. of Engineers will be able to attend this meeting and since the OCE has a prime involvement in flood activity, they requested that the meeting be postponed until the following week. [ ] felt that more could be accomplished by adherence to a schedule of weekly meetings with the understanding that all members might not be present at all sessions. He requested that the OCE representatives prepare a paper containing their ideas for presentation in their absence. This seemed to be a satisfactory solution.

Continuing to meet at Reston was brought up by [ ] who suggested we find a place in town closer to everyone's offices.

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The Washington parking problem and availability of a suitable location such as the EOB was mentioned and a relocation vote taken. An almost unanimous preference was in favor of continuing to meet at Reston. It was suggested however, that as an aid to USGS security personnel, we begin our sessions at 1300 hours so that we might adjourn by 1630 hours rather than at 1700 hours as had been the practice for this and the previous meeting. This was agreed to and the meeting was adjourned.

Section I  
Image Evaluation Branch  
APSD/TSSG/NPIC

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